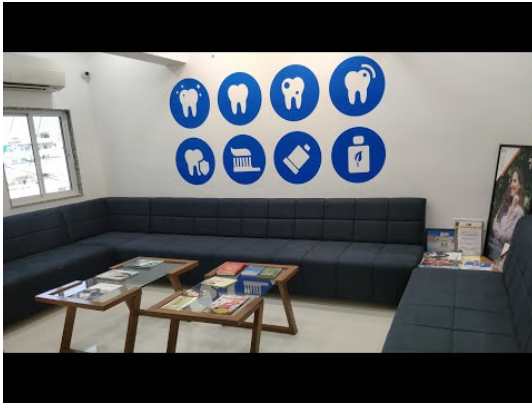


The tooth is composed of 4 layers, the enamel, dentin, cementum, and dental pulp.

What is enamel?



Enamel is the hardest compound in the entire body. It's the outside layer of the tooth, completely covers the dentin, and is in fact transparent in color. That means the color of our teeth is due to dentin and not enamel. Enamel is comprised of enamel rods which can hold stain quite quickly, including red white wine, coffee, tea, and cigarettes.

What is enamel comprised of?

Enamel is comprised of 96% calcium hydroxyapatite and 4% natural product and water. Bone is made up of 50% hydroxyapatite and 50% organic material including collagen, hence making enamel <http://bestendodontistnj.com/> the hardest compound in the body.

If I chip or break enamel, will it fix by itself?

Unfortunately, enamel does not include any living cells. Therefore, if chipped, it will not repair itself. Nevertheless, dentin can repair itself if damaged.

What is hydroxyapatite?

Hydroxyapatite is a storage form of calcium in the body. 99% of calcium in bone is stored as hydroxyapatite. The chemical formula for hydroxyapatite is $\text{Ca}_5(\text{PO}_4)_3\text{OH}$.

What is dentin?

Dentin comprises the bulk of the tooth. It completely surrounds the pulp, and is covered by enamel on the crown part of the tooth, and by cementum on the root of the tooth. Dentin is normally yellow in color and ultimately identifies the color of the tooth, being that enamel is transparent. Dentin is made up of dentinal tubules that interact directly with the pulp. This indicates that if bacteria reaches the dentin, generally some type of discomfort will be felt. Dentin is composed of 65-70% calcium hydroxyapatite, 20-25% organic material, and 10% water.

What is cementum?

Cementum covers dentin on the root surface area of the tooth. Cementum links the tooth to the gum ligaments and is therefore rather responsible for securing the tooth in the bone. It is composed of 50% calcium hydroxyapatite and 50% organic material and water, the very same consistency as bone.

What is pulp?

Pulp is the livelihood of the tooth. Pulp products nutrients, blood, and nerves to the tooth. This means that the pulp is responsible for keeping the dentin, cementum, and dentin strong.

Well what if my pulp is gotten rid of with a root canal?

When bacteria reaches the pulp, depending on how substantial, it's normally recommended to have the pulp eliminated. This is due to the fact that the pulp communicates straight with the remainder of the body, and if harmful bacteria exists in your pulp, and it easily move to other locations of the body, consisting of the brain!! Please see the post on root canal for further info on this subject.

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